

Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 AID-20 IGA-02

NSC-10 SPC-03 SAM-01 SS-20 RSC-01 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 DRC-01 MC-02 L-03 /095 W

----- 087996

R 191115Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2834

INFO SECDEF

USCINCEUR

CINCUSNAVEUR

CNO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 1224

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS MASS, TU

SUBJ: TURKISH INTEREST IN CRUISER USS SPRINGFIELD

REF: STATE 29276; CNO DTG 141254Z FEB 74

1. ON MONDAY, FEB 18, WE WERE TELEPHONED BY YAVUZALP (DIRGEN, INTL. SECURITY AFFAIRS, MFA) CONCERNING USS SPRINGFIELD. YAVUZALP, WHO SAID HE WAS CALLING ON BEHALF OF FOREIGN MINISTER GUNES, SAID THAT MFA HAD NOT YET COMPLETED INTERMINISTERIAL COORDINATION NEEDED IN ORDER FORMALLY REQUEST SPRINGFIELD THROUGH EMBASSY. YAVUZALP SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THAT REQUEST HAD TO BE MADE BY FEB 20 OR COST TO TURKEY WOULD GO UP. HE ASKED WHETHER TURKEY COULD BE GIVEN A FEW MORE DAYS, DURING WHICH COST COULD BE FROZEN.

2. WE EXPLAINED TO YAVUZALP THAT SPRINGFIELD WAS NOW IN PROCESS OF DEACTIVATION. THIS PROCESS WENT IN STAGES. NEW STATE WOULD BE INITIATED FEB 20, AND SINCE WORK CREWS AND EQUIPMENT WERE INVOLVED, COULD BE POSTPONED ONLY AT CONSIDERABLE COST TO USG. WE THEREFORE DOUBTED THAT POST-
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PONEMENT WOULD BE POSSIBLE. NEVERTHELESS, WE UNDERTOOK

TO PASS MFA'S REQUEST TO WASHINGTON.

3. COMMENT: THERE ARE SOME INDICATIONS THAT SPRINGFIELD
REQUEST IS NOT RPT NOT HAVING SMOOTH SAILING THROUGH GOT.
NEVERTHELESS, WE RECOMMEND THAT IF POSSIBLE, DEACTIVATION
PROCESS BE HELD WHERE IT IS FOR ONE EXTRA WEEK BEYOND
FEB 20 TO ENABLE TURKS TO MAKE FORMAL REQUEST, IF THEY ARE
GOING TO DO SO, WITHOUT INCURRING EXTRA COSTS. PLEASE
ADVISE SOONEST.
MACOMBER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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